

## Department of Justice U.S. Attorney's Office Southern District of Texas

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## EDINBURG MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO RECEIVING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

McALLEN, TX – Nathan Scott Sanders, 54, of Edinburg, Texas, was convicted of receiving child pornography, United States Attorney Don DeGabrielle announced today.

At a hearing held late afternoon on September 5, 2006, Sanders admitted that in 2004 he requested a video containing child pornography from a purported seller of child pornography via the Internet. The purposed seller was, in fact, a federal undercover officer. On September 1, 2004, following Sanders' purchase, agents with the United States Postal Inspection Service (USPIS) executed a search warrant on his home finding the purchased video along with a computer and external storage media, including disks, tapes and zip drives. Agents of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement assisted in the execution of the search warrant.

An examination of the seized items by a forensic examiner of the USPIS resulted in the discovery of over 370 still images and more than 30 video clips of child pornography. The still images and video clips depicted adults performing various sexual acts with children under the age of 12.

Following the search of his residence, Sanders admitted that he collected child pornography in an interview with USPIS Inspectors.

United States District Court Judge Ricardo H. Hinojosa presided over the guilty plea and has set sentencing for November 20, 2006. Sanders faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years and a maximum of 40 years in prison. The mandatory minimum is an enhanced sentence based upon a 1988 conviction for solicitation of a minor for indecent and obscene photographs. Sanders has been in federal custody without bond since his arrest in May 2006, and will remain in custody pending sentencing.

The investigation leading to the filing of criminal charges against Sanders was conducted by Inspectors of the United States Postal Inspection Service with the assistance of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Alex Lewis.

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